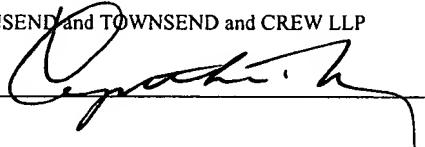


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On 5/13/03

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

KENJI OBARA, et al.

Application No.: 09/743,560

Filed: January 9, 2001

For: SAMPLE OBSERVATION  
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT

Examiner: Anthony G. Quash

Art Unit: 2881

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-019M00HS  
Client Ref. No.: 219800526US1

**RECEIVED**  
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